



**September 15-17, 2004
Bangkok, Thailand**

- What:** Food Ingredients Asia (*Fi Asia*)
- Who Should Attend:** U.S. exporters of food ingredients, additives, equipment, and supplies.
- Why:** Launched in 1990, *Fi Asia* has become the number one trade show in the food ingredients market in South East Asia. The quality of attendees at previous shows demonstrates that *Fi Asia* is the meeting place of choice for international and regional suppliers of ingredients with manufacturers and producers from South East Asia!

The Market



Thailand is Southeast Asia's second largest economy and its economy has shown remarkable improvement with growth forecast to be 9 percent for 2004 following growth of 6.3 percent in 2003. Domestic spending and a rebound in exports bolstered the renewed growth that occurred in 2003.

Thailand is currently the 16th largest export market for U.S. agricultural products. The upbeat growth of 2002 was bolstered by domestic spending and also a rebound in exports of 5.8 percent. Strong intra-Asia demand, diverse export markets and a competitive presence in both the agricultural and the industrial sectors supported strong growth in manufacturing production and helped to strengthen the economic recovery process.

In 2002, Thailand imported \$80 million in consumer oriented foods from the U.S., up 22 percent over 2001's \$65 million. Corresponding U.S. imports from Thailand were \$373 million, up 14 percent.

USDA Contacts:

Sukanya Sirikeratikul

American Embassy, Bangkok
Tel: 011-662-205-4000
Fax: 011-662-255-2907
Email: Sukanya.Sirikeratikul@usda.gov

Teresina Chin

FAS Washington
Tel: 202-720-9423
Fax: 202-690-4374
Email: Teresina.Chin@usda.gov